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COUNTY OF CORNWALL,

District No. 31.

✦ **ST. IVES** ✦

URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.



MEDICAL OFFICER'S ✧

✧ ANNUAL REPORT,

1905.

THE ST. IVES
URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

To the Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors.

Gentlemen,

*I beg to present the following as my Annual
Report of the St Ives Urban Sanitary District for 1905,*

And remain,

Yours faithfully,

J. M. NICHOLLS,

January, 1906.

M. O. H.

COUNTY OF CORNWALL,

DISTRICT No. 31.

1905.

St. Ives Urban Sanitary Authority.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Area, 1,100 Statute Acres.

Population, 1881, 6,445.

„ 1891, 6,094.

Density of population per acre, 6.69.

„ 1901, 6,699.

Emigrants 56.

Immigrants 85.

Inhabited houses, 1891	....	....	....	1,478.
„ „ 1901	....	....	....	1,742.
„ „ 1902	....	....	....	1,759.
„ „ 1903	....	....	....	1,779.
„ „ 1904	....	....	....	1,800.
„ „ 1905	....	....	....	1,810.

Births Registered, **199** (males 114; females 85).

Deaths „ **90** (males 39; females 57).—**Natural Increase, 109.**

	1902	1903	1904.	1905.
Birthrate per 1000 of population	26.13	26.13	21.94	29.70
Deathrate „ „	16.57	14.18	9.70	13.43

Classification of Ages and Deaths.

	1 yr. and under.	1 to 5 yrs.	5 to 15 yrs.	15 to 25 yrs.	25 to 65 yrs.	65 to 80 yrs.	Over 80.	Over 90.	Tl.					
January	4	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	2	...	—	...	—	7
February	—	...	2	...	—	...	2	...	2	...	4	...	—	10
March	1	...	—	...	—	...	2	...	3	...	1	...	—	7
April.....	3	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	5	...	3	...	—	12
May	1	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	—	6
June	—	...	—	...	—	...	4	...	2	...	—	...	—	6
July	1	...	—	...	—	...	3	...	—	...	2	...	—	6
August	3	...	1	...	—	...	1	...	1	...	—	...	1	7
September	2	...	—	...	—	...	2	...	2	...	2	...	—	8
October	—	...	—	...	1	...	—	...	1	...	4	...	1	7
November	1	...	—	...	—	...	3	...	1	...	—	...	—	5
December.....	—	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	2	9
	16	4	2	3	25	24	16	0	90					

On December 14th the dead body of an unknown male child was found in the sea near Godrevy Lighthouse, and brought to St. Ives; and at an Inquest a verdict of “Death from Drowning” was returned. This not being a death occurring in this district, is not included in the above returns.

3 Illegitimate births: at the rate of '44 per 1000 of population; or 1 in 66 births.

1 Illegitimate death: at the rate of '14 per 1000 of population (age 6 months,—cause Congenital Syphilis).

Analysis of Deaths.

1900		1901		1902		1903		1904		1905	
14	...	12	...	13	...	16	...	6	...	9	deaths were due to disease of the Nervous System.
11	...	9	...	14	...	17	...	12	...	10	„ „ Circulatory System.
29	...	24	...	25	...	15	...	4	...	15	„ „ Respiratory System.
7	...	19	...	9	...	10	...	4	...	7	„ „ Alimentary System.
4	...	6	...	5	...	4	...	3	...	6	„ „ Genito-Urinary System.
11	...	14	...	7	...	6	...	8	...	12	„ „ Lymphatic System.
7	...	15	...	17	...	0	...	0	...	5	„ Zymotic diseases.
13	...	22	...	13	...	9	...	14	...	17	„ Senile decay.
10	...	9	...	3	...	7	...	11	...	2	„ Marasmus and Convulsions.
8	...	4	...	2	...	8	...	1	...	5	„ Premature Births and Malformations.
2	...	5	...	0	...	3	...	2	...	2	Inquests.

Inquest Cases,—Causes of deaths:—

(1.) Pneumonia, following an accident.

(2.) Natural Causes.

Zymotic Mortality.—5 deaths. *Whooping Cough*,—4 (all infants). *Diarrhæa*,—1 (infant—4 months).

An average rate of '74 per 1000 of population.

Cancer Mortality.—4 deaths (3 females, aged 48, 76 and 87 years, and 1 male, aged 70 years).

An average rate of '59 per 1000 of population.

Phthisical Mortality.—8 deaths (4 males, aged 20, 33, 41 and 52 years, and 4 females, aged 17, 22, 34 and 60 years). 3 of the males were visitors, who had contracted the disease before coming into the district.

An average rate of ~~11~~¹·94 per 1000 of population, or, excluding visitors, 7·14 per 1000 of population.

Respiratory Mortality.—7 deaths from Pneumonia and Bronchitis, giving a deathrate of 1·04 per 1000 of population. These deaths occurred in the following months:—

January.	February.	March.	April.	May	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
—	...	—	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	2

No infants.

The deaths were 5 females, aged 45, 61, 67, 70 and 70 years, and 2 males, aged 41 and 55 years.

The deaths during March, April, November and December, were only indirectly due to Pneumonia;—all the cases having also chronic heart disease.

Infant Mortality.—16 deaths (under 12 months):—Deathrate 2·38 per 1000 of population, or at the rate of 80 deaths to 1000 births.

It compares with previous years as follows:—

1897.—24 deaths, at the rate of 141 to 1000 births.

1898.—43	„	„	215	„
1899.—28	„	„	132	„
1900.—36	„	„	186	„
1901.—33	„	„	167	„
1902.—25	„	„	142	„
1903.—26	„	„	149	„
1904.—15	„	„	100	„
1905.—16	„	„	80	„

The causes of death were:—

Malformation and Premature Births.	Malnutrition.	Whooping Cough.	Gastro- Enteritis.	Congenital Syphilis.	Nephritis.	Diarrhœa.
5	2	3	3	1	1	1

As last year, this Mortality shows a marked improvement. I still oftentimes find injudicious feeding of infants; and these infants would probably have increased the infantile mortality, if we had an epidemic of measles, or other infectious disease during the year.

Influenza Mortality.—3 deaths:—Deathrate 44 per 1000 of population. 1 in January,—female, aged 62 years. 2 in December,—female, aged 38 years, and female, aged 81 years.

NOTIFICATION OF DISEASE.

Four cases notified, giving a rate of '59 per 1000 of population.

Analysis of Cases Notified.

		Erysipelas.	
January.....	.....	.....	.. .....
February .....	.....	.....	.....
March .....	.....	.....	.....
April.....	.....	1	.....
May .....	.....	.....	.....
June .....	.....	.....	.....
July .....	.....	.....	.....
August .....	.....	.....	.....
September ...	.....	1	.....
October.....	.....	.....	.....
November ...	.....	2	.....
December.....	.....	.....	.....
		4	
Rate per 1000 of population		'59	

Total cases notified, 4.

Total rate per 1000 of population, '59.

HOUSE INSPECTIONS.

These are almost invariably satisfactory. But in some parts of the district one cannot but wish that the same care was taken to keep the exteriors, and the portion of roads, in front or at the back, of a few houses as clean and free from refuse and soiling water, as the majority of houses are remarkable for.

In my Inspections, it has occurred to me, that a word of *warning* is advisable to all those having Water Closets in their dwellings.

These conveniences have so rapidly increased in numbers, that—especially in the smaller houses, which were built without any provision for such additions, and where they cannot be far removed from the inmates,—great care should be taken that they are kept in good order, and any defect or unpleasantness immediately noticed, and the assistance of a Plumber called in to remedy it without delay. Also to remember that nothing should be stored in these closets, and that the windows should be kept open.

Shipping Inspections.—These are satisfactory, both from home and foreign ports. I received various notices of seamen returning to St. Ives from foreign-going infected ships. I kept these men under my notice, but no sickness resulted from their having risked infection.

THE SANITARY CONDITION OF THE TOWN.

The Stennack Stream during the past summer was again very frequently a danger to the Public Health. Portions of the river bed were worse than I have previously noticed them.

The throwing of waste water on to the streets and roads in the front of houses still continues, in a few cases, to be a nuisance, both to passers by, as well as a danger in hot dry weather to those committing the offence, and to their neighbours.

Want of thought and carelessness is also shown by many who throw refuse and waste water into the gutterways in the streets, which then flows into the drain traps, and in summer time, and at other times when we are a few days without rain, remains to become an evil-smelling and dangerous nuisance, and perhaps the starting point of a disease which might destroy many lives, although the victims or their friends may be unconscious as to its origin, and little suspect that the silent cause is carelessness on someone's part, and adjacent to their doors or open windows.

The gutterways are to take away rain water, and not to be used as convenient receptacles for refuse of any kind, either solid or fluid.

I regret that there is still reason to complain of the contamination of some parts of the Warren foreshore, and the Porthmeor Beach, with refuse which should be given to the collecting carts.

EPIDEMICS.

No epidemic sickness during the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

This is fairly satisfactory for the present requirements of the Town; that from the Bussow stream having appreciably augmented it with a pure and soft water.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

There are no large Factories in this district. The Workshops are small, employing from 6 to 10 workpeople. The buildings and sanitary appliances are generally satisfactory, and there is as a rule efficiency in carrying out the Act.

NEW BUILDINGS.

Ten new houses erected during the year, one being an Alms House, with 12 tenements.

Less attention appears to be sometimes given to the convenience of approach to new houses, than to the building of the houses themselves; so that we sometimes find a good class of house with a narrow or indirect road leading to it. A good house deserves an easy and open approach, which with other thoroughfares shall add to the uniformity of the Town, and the convenience of its inhabitants.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Sanitary progress and the Public Health of another year may be classed as very satisfactory. The state of the general health has been very good; and the absence of preventible disease again is a marked feature in the year's report.

The low notification rate—which may be said to be free from preventible disease—is very satisfactory.

The cause of the one death, which is classed as Zymotic, may have been contributed to by injudicious feeding during the warmer summer weather.

The birthrate is again very satisfactory.

The deathrate is also satisfactory; the larger proportion of deaths occurring in people between the ages of 60 and 80.

J. M. NICHOLLS,

L.R.C.P., Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng.,

Medical Officer of Health.

January, 1906.